

Message Text

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42

ACTION NEA-16

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-11 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20

USIA-15 AID-20 IGA-02 IO-14 OMB-01 DRC-01 /130 W

----- 004335

R 081120Z AUG 74

FM AMCONSUL KARACHI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8293

INFO AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

AMEMBASSY KABUL

AMCONSUL LAHORE

AMCONSUL PESHAWAR

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, PK

SUBJECT: MORE CHARGES FILED AGAINST JAILED NAP LEADERS

REF: KARACHI 1532 (NOTAL)

1. AUGUST 7 URDU DAILY "JANG" REPORTED THAT ADDITIONAL CHARGES HAVE BEEN FILED AGAINST OPPOSITION NATIONAL AWAMI PARTY (NAP) LEADER AND FORMER BALUCHISTAN CHIEF MINISTER ATTAULAH KHAN MENGAL. THE GOVERNMENT HAS FILED ITS FIRST CHARGES AGAINST BALUCH STATE LEGISLATOR AND FORMER PROVINCIAL NAP CHIEF KHAIR BUX MARRI. BOTH HAVE BEEN IMPRISONED ALONG WITH THE NAP EX-GOVERNOR OF BALUCHISTAN, GHOU BUX BIZENJO, SINCE AUGUST 1973 (REFTEL). A WRIT PETITION OF HABEAS CORPUS ON THEIR BEHALF HAS REPORTEDLY BEEN FILED BEFORE THE PUNJAB HIGH COURT, WHICH HAS FAILED TO ACT ON IT; THE DETENTION ORDERS AGAINST THEM HAVE BEEN PERIODICALLY RENEWED.

2. ACCORDING TO "JANG", MARRI HAS BEEN ACCUSED UNDER SECTIONS 13, 14, 121, AND 153 (A) OF THE PAKISTAN PENAL CODE OF WAGING OR ATTEMPTING TO WAGE WAR AGAINST THE GOVERNMENT AND OF PROMOTING ENMITY BETWEEN CLASSES. HE, MENGAL, AND A KARACHI ARMS DEALER HAVE

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BEEN CHARGED BY THE QUETTA DISTRICT AUTHORITIES OF VIOLATING THE

ARMS ACT BY ILLEGALLY OBTAINING LARGE AMOUNTS OF ARMS AND AMMUNITION. THEY HAVE BEEN DIRECTED TO APPEAR BEFORE THE ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER, QUETTA, ON AUGUST 15 TO RESPOND TO THE ARMS CHARGE.

3. COMMENT: THE GOVERNMENT SHOULD NOT FIND IT DIFFICULT TO PROVE ITS CHARGES, SHOULD IT DECIDE TO MOVE AGAINST MARRI, MENGAL, AND BIZENJO AT THIS TIME. HOWEVER, IT MAY WELL WAIT TO SEE IF SOME MODUS VIVENDI CAN BE WORKED OUT WITH THESE THREE MAJOR TRIBAL SARDARS, WHOSE FOLLOWERS ARE AMONG THE MOST ACTIVE OF THE BALUCH GUERRILLAS. PRIME MINISTER BHUTTO WOULD PROBABLY PREFER TO HAVE THE SARDARS INFLUENCE THEIR RETAINERS TO CURTAIL THEIR ACTIVITIES; OTHERWISE HE MIGHT BE LEFT WITH NO ALTERNATIVE BUT TO SEND THE ARMY AFTER THEM AS HE HAS PLEDGED TO DO IF THEY FAIL TO COME DOWN FROM THE HILLS BY OCTOBER 15.
TIGER

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